



Growing up sexual

London, Ont. sex therapists Beryl and Noam Chernick advise people who bring them their marital and sexual problems. Nearly 200 people attended

a public meeting in Midland last week to listen to, and ask questions of, the Chernicks.

Questions about sexuality answered by therapists

by **KATY AUSTIN**
Homosexuality and masturbation are not necessarily wrong or bad, said two sex therapists speaking in Midland last Tuesday night. What matters more is that the individual has a clear understanding of his own sexuality, that he is happy with it, and that he respects the sexuality which others choose for themselves.

At the invitation of the Penetanguishene Mental Health Centre's Volunteer Association, Drs. Beryl and Noam Chernick spoke to almost 200 parents, teens and teachers gathered in the Highland Inn. "Growing Up Sexual" was the theme of the talk given by the London, Ont.-based team, who specialize in helping people with marital and sexual problems.

Through conversation between themselves, which slipped easily into humorous role-playing skits, the Chernicks put their audience at ease during discussion of delicate topics such as masturbation, "Playing Doctor", delayed puberty, teenage intercourse, premature ejaculation and birth control.

They stressed the importance of treating

sexuality in people of all ages as a normal and healthy part of life, no more and no less important than the emotional, spiritual, and physical sides.

When asked his opinion on children viewing explicit sex on television, Noam

Chernick replied that he is far more concerned with violence on the tube.

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